

Board of Health
Public Health Program Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2020
Regular Meeting

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call/video.

Committee members present via Zoom

Megan Dunn
John Joplin
Jared Mead
Dan Rankin
Linda Redmon

Committee members absent

None

Staff present

Shawn Frederick, Chris Spitters, Heather Thomas, Nicole Thomsen, Pam Aguilar, Ragina Gray, Katie Curtis, Micha Horn, Linda Carl

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Program Policy Committee was called to order by Ms. Linda Redmon at 3:02 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Ms. Linda Carl who reported there was a quorum present.

Arrivals/Departures

Mr. Rankin arrived at 10:10 a.m.

Approval of Agenda Contents and Order

It was moved by Mr. John Joplin and seconded by Ms. Megan Dunn to approve the agenda contents and order. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Joplin and seconded by Ms. Dunn to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 18, 2020. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent.

Briefings

Schools and child care team update (no staff report; H. Thomas, A. Zych, M. Horn)

Ms. Micha Horn reported that the child care team is preparing for the coming school year. They continue to provide child cares, schools and camps with relevant guidance, answer questions, and deal with COVID cases. Their focus is providing tools for prevention work. Daycares that followed the Health District's guidance had only small groups that needed to be quarantined. Larger closures occurred in centers that didn't follow our guidance. Ms. Heather Thomas provided a slide showing our recommended protocol for child cares and schools when staff or a student is tested, tests positive, or exhibits symptoms.

During committee discussion it was noted that the Health District has weekly calls with school superintendents in preparation for the upcoming school year. Tribes are included in statewide calls. Schools, Sno-Isle Libraries, Boys & Girls Club and the YMCA are working to provide programs for children without computers or access to the internet. Ms. Redmon asked what a “close contact” is if a teacher tests positive. Ms. Horn responded that our guidance for schools is to create cohorts where students don’t move around a lot so that contacts are minimized. If classes stay small with limited mobility, only the class would be impacted, not the whole school. In daycares, the entire class would be considered a close contact.

Community Equity Advisory Board (SR 20-069; N. Thomsen)

Board of Health Resolution 20-17 supporting equity and inclusion calls out targeted equity work. The CEAB was formed and held their first meeting last Monday. CEAB members will receive \$50 per meeting (plus mileage); funding comes from Accountable Communities of Health. The board will meet the second Monday of every month from noon to 2 p.m. and will focus initially on COVID and ongoing conversations and partnerships. Ms. Dunn suggested environmental equity/justice as a potential topic for the board. The committee recommended an update twice a year from the CEAB to the Board of Health.

Draft purchasing policy (SR 20-068; N. Thomsen)

The draft purchasing policy has been looked at in concert with the contracting policy. It was last updated in 2011. The impetus for the update was a 2018 audit finding and the failure of our policy to be in line with our practices. Staff looked at guidance from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, current RCWs, and recommendations from The Institute for Public Procurement and Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC). Staff also looked at Spokane and Kitsap Counties’ policies. Mr. Dan Rankin recommended adding a process to ensure efforts to reach out to equity partners throughout the county. Staff will research how other counties address this issue. The committee recommended forwarding the draft policy to the other Board committee for their review.

It was moved by Mr. Rankin and seconded by Mr. John Joplin to forward the draft purchasing policy to the Administration and Executive Committees at their next meetings for review and potential action. The motion passed with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, 0 absent.

Public Health Foundation update (no staff report; H. Thomas)

Ms. Thomas worked with the state auditors and will follow up with legal counsel on a few outstanding issues for the foundation. She will schedule another ad hoc meeting soon to discuss application to the Secretary of State and a timeline, then the committee will move forward to recruit members for the foundation board. The plan is to come to the Board in October or November to confirm new members.

Next Meeting Date

Thursday, September 17, at 3 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 p.m.